

Lesson 3 | June 19, 2022

The Growing Church

Study Text: Acts 2:1 through 4:32

Central Truth: Faithfulness to Christ and church growth go hand-in-hand.

Key Verse: Acts 2:47

The Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved (KJV).

Each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved (NLT).

Learning Objectives

- Students will explore elements that led to growth in the Church and how they might lead to growth in churches today.
- Students should desire to grow in their relationship with the Lord and fellow believers to facilitate evangelism.
- Students should commit to serving Christ faithfully in the power of the Spirit to advance the gospel.

Introducing the Lesson

Say: Jesus had left a task for His disciples to do. After obediently waiting for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, they began that task in the power of the Holy Spirit. This lesson looks at those early days of the Church, which serve as an example for us.

Opening Activity—Missing Pieces

Bring a small children's puzzle and place it on a small table. Put most of the puzzle pieces on the table, but keep two or three pieces back. Ask a few students to come up and assemble the puzzle. Then point out that it cannot be done if they do not have all the pieces and how disheartening that can be. *Ask: What project have you begun only to discover that you are missing some of the elements you need to complete the task? How did you solve the problem?*

Say: Church growth depends on God's actions, not men's actions. God uses people but he is the one who adds to the church. People acting outside the Lord's will cause loss or stagnation to the church.

Today's lesson explores spiritual dynamics that lead to the growth of the Church and individual believers. Like a puzzle, a home improvement project, or a recipe, spiritual or church growth requires certain elements to be present. May we be open to the Spirit to discover areas in which we excel and areas in which we might improve (where pieces might be missing), both as a church body and as individuals. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

The example of the Early Church reminds us that faithfulness to Christ and growth, both spiritual and numerical, go hand in hand. **We will examine the components that led to the growth of the Church and discuss ways we can experience such growth in our lives and in our local churches. A major component is “Holy Spirit led Christians” “Truth” is a powerful component.**

Part 1—Gladly Receiving the Word Spirit-Anointed Proclamation

Acts 2:4–5,14–18

[Act 2:4-5, 14-18 KJV] 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. 5 And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven. ... 14 But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all [ye] that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words: 15 For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is [but] the third hour of the day. 16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; 17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: 18 And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:

Say: Just a few weeks prior to this day, Peter had denied that he even knew Jesus, and now, under the anointing of the Holy Spirit, Peter was boldly declaring that God’s promise, made nearly eight hundred years earlier, was now being fulfilled. As a result of Peter’s bold preaching, about three thousand people were added to the Church. When obedient believers speak in the power of the Holy Spirit, good things happen! (Share your highlights from the following text.)

Jesus had declared to His followers that they would receive power from the Holy Spirit to be His witnesses (Acts 1:8). This became evident on the Day of Pentecost. On that day, God poured out His Holy Spirit on the early believers in spectacular fashion. When they were filled with the Spirit, He enabled them to speak in other tongues (2:4). In this case, those tongues were human languages spoken by people gathered in Jerusalem for the Feast (verses 5,8). Imagine the surprise of people from many countries when they began hearing the gospel in their native language coming from the believers.

Peter, standing with the other apostles addressed the crowd to explain what they were observing (verses 14–18). This was the fulfillment of God’s promises to the

Jewish people. The prophet Joel had spoken of this outpouring (Joel 2:28–29). All people could experience the Holy Spirit's presence and power, whether male or female, young or old, slave or free.

The apostles clearly explained how God was at work to redeem His people by sending Jesus to be both Lord and Christ. The outpouring of the Spirit that very day was proof that Jesus is the resurrected and exalted Lord.

Spirit-anointed proclamation of the good news that God desires to work in the lives of all people is still needed today. The Spirit can work powerfully through believers to testify of Jesus. We should look for every opportunity to share the good news with those around us.

Do not discount your own testimony of what Jesus has done in your life. Your testimony and the demonstration of the Spirit's power can work to bring others to faith in Jesus.

Discuss

- ? What are two or three key points in your personal testimony?
- ? How does Joel's prophecy reveal the gospel is for all people?

Heartfelt Response

Acts 2:37–41

[Act 2:37-41 KJV] 37 Now when they heard [this], they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men [and] brethren, what shall we do? 38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. 39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, [even] as many as the Lord our God shall call. 40 And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation. 41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added [unto them] about three thousand souls.

Say: The truth of the gospel is powerful. The Spirit brings conviction to the human heart. This was true on the Day of Pentecost and is still true today. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

The Spirit-anointed message of the apostles brought conviction to the hearts of many in the crowd (Acts 2:37). The disciples were seeing Jesus' words in John

16:7–9 being fulfilled. As people in the crowd on the Day of Pentecost began to realize that God had sent the answer to their prayers in the person of Jesus, the very One they had rejected and handed over to be crucified, their hearts were greatly troubled. People wanted to know how they needed to respond to the truth about Jesus.

Peter instructed the people to repent and be baptized as followers of Jesus (Acts 2:38). Putting their faith in Jesus would bring forgiveness of their sins. **With this restoration of a right relationship with God, they would be able to receive the gift of the Spirit (verse 39).** That day about 3,000 people gladly received the call to turn to God for salvation.

Peter's answer pointed them to the hope found in Jesus Christ. Repentance—admitting God's way is the right way—and becoming a follower of Jesus is the way to receiving forgiveness. God continues His work in believers with the gift of the Holy Spirit (verse 39). Those who gladly receive the good news and yield themselves to God are added to God's family. Their lives will never be the same.

Resource Packet Item 1: Responses to the Word

Distribute the work sheet and allow students time to read the passage, examine the chart, and respond to the questions. Discuss their responses as a class.

Discuss

? What hinders people from gladly receiving the gospel?

? What can you do to help those who are added to God's family grow as followers of Jesus?

Part 2—Christian Fellowship and Ministry Life Together

Acts 2:42–47

[Act 2:42-47 KJV] 42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. 43 And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles. 44 And all that believed were together, and had all things common; 45 And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all [men], as every man had need. 46 And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, 47 Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

Say: When we think of the mission of the Church in our world today, we would do well to consider the example of the Early Church. The Church was experiencing what could only be described as “explosive church growth” with new believers numbering in the thousands. The pattern they established is still the key to a healthy church in our time. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

One of the dynamics that helped the Early Church grow was that the believers did life together. They spent time together to learn the Word of God, to pray, and to worship the Lord. They encouraged each other outside times of worship by sharing meals and caring for the needs of those among them. The apostles led the way as they taught and performed miraculous works.

Christian fellowship involves spending time together to grow closer to the Lord and to other believers. Acts 2:42 identifies four elements necessary for this growth.

Believers need to learn God’s Word together. Learning from other believers how to apply the Bible to everyday living is invaluable.

Believers need to encourage one another. The heart of fellowship is getting to know one another beneath the surface level. Building safe, loving relationships in which accountability and encouragement are present is the goal of fellowship.

Believers need to worship together. Joining with others to celebrate what the Lord has done and is doing strengthens Christians in their faith and energizes their daily walk with Him.

Believers need to pray together. Prayer joins believers together as they intercede for one another.

When these four elements are present, believers become a loving, caring community from which the gospel goes forth. As this community of believers exemplified the teachings of Jesus about loving God and loving others, people looked on them with favor and were open to the gospel. Every day more people were coming to faith in Christ and added to the Church.

Resource Packet Item 2: Life Together

Hand out the work sheet to students and ask them to complete the questions on it. As the questions call for personal reflection and evaluation, do not ask students to share their responses. Use the first discussion question below to offer suggestions on how believers can better do life together.

Discuss

- ? What steps can individual believers take to better do life together with other believers?
- ? In what ways is a loving, caring community of faith attractive to unbelievers?

Miracles and Message

Acts 3:1–12; 4:1–4

[Act 3:1-12 KJV] 1 Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, [being] the ninth [hour]. 2 And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple; 3 Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms. 4 And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us. 5 And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them. 6 Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. 7 And he took him by the right hand, and lifted [him] up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. 8 And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God. 9 And all the people saw him walking and praising God: 10 And they knew that it was he which sat for alms at the Beautiful gate of the temple: and they were filled with wonder and amazement at that which had happened unto him. 11 And as the lame man which was healed held Peter and John, all the people ran together unto them in the porch that is called Solomon's, greatly wondering. 12 And when Peter saw [it], he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk?

[Act 4:1-4 KJV] 1 And as they spake unto the people, the priests, and the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees, came upon them, 2 Being grieved that they taught the people, and preached through Jesus the resurrection from the dead. 3 And they laid hands on them, and put [them] in hold unto the next day: for it was now eventide. 4 Howbeit many of them which heard the word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand.

Say: The early disciples were sensitive to the direction of the Holy Spirit. In this account of healing the lame man at the temple gate, they saw more than an opportunity to share a few coins; they saw a man with a deep need that they knew Jesus could meet. More importantly, they were willing to step out in faith and be used in meeting the man's

need. As we grow in our relationship with God, we should also be looking for needs that Jesus wants to meet through us.

(Share your highlights from the following text.)

Peter and John encountered a beggar as they were going to the temple. He had been lame since birth and depended on the kindness of those entering the temple to meet his most basic needs. The Spirit made it clear to Peter that Jesus had something for this lame man other than a few coins. Peter declared healing for the man in the name of Jesus Christ (Acts 3:1–7).

The man's excited response to his healing drew the attention of others in the temple. He was such a familiar sight as he sat at the gate that everyone knew who he was, and they were amazed at what they were seeing (Acts 3:8–11). **Peter and John then used this opportunity to proclaim the gospel of Jesus, declaring Him to be the risen Savior whose power had healed the man. Their preaching so upset the Jewish authorities that they put the two apostles in jail (Acts 4:1–4). But many in the crowd believed. This is but one example in the Book of Acts of how the demonstration of the Spirit's power through Christians led people to put their faith in Jesus.**

The power of the Spirit displayed through signs and miracles can open doors for believers to tell others about Jesus. **Believers should not lose sight of the truth that miracles and the message of Jesus must go together.** The credit and the glory for the miraculous must always go to Jesus, not the believer.

Believers should not be surprised if opposition comes as it did in this account in Acts. Yet the Church continued to grow as it ministered by the power of the Spirit in the name of Jesus.

Discuss

? What can believers do to see the Spirit work more miracles through them?

? How can miracles open the door for the message of the gospel?

Part 3—The Word, the Spirit, the Multitude

Another Spirit-Anointed Proclamation

Acts 4:5–22

[Act 4:5-22 KJV] 5 And it came to pass on the morrow, that their rulers, and elders, and scribes, 6 And Annas the high priest, and Caiaphas, and John, and Alexander, and as many as were of the kindred of the high priest, were gathered together at Jerusalem. 7 And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, By what power, or by what name, have ye done this? 8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy

Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel, 9 If we this day be examined of the good deed done to the impotent man, by what means he is made whole; 10 Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, [even] by him doth this man stand here before you whole. 11 This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. 12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. 13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus. 14 And beholding the man which was healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it. 15 But when they had commanded them to go aside out of the council, they conferred among themselves, 16 Saying, What shall we do to these men? for that indeed a notable miracle hath been done by them [is] manifest to all them that dwell in Jerusalem; and we cannot deny [it]. 17 But that it spread no further among the people, let us straitly threaten them, that they speak henceforth to no man in this name. 18 And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus. 19 But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye. 20 For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard. 21 So when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding nothing how they might punish them, because of the people: for all [men] glorified God for that which was done. 22 For the man was above forty years old, on whom this miracle of healing was shewed.

Say: It's hard to believe that not everyone was happy that this man who had been lame for his entire life was now healed and able to do all the things he had never been able to do. No longer was he at the mercy of those kind enough to give him a few shekels as they entered the temple. Who wouldn't be happy for such an event? But the Sadducces, the Jewish leaders who did not believe in the resurrection of the dead, "were disturbed" (Acts 4:2). The disciples were teaching that through Jesus there is a resurrection from the dead and demonstrated Jesus' power by healing the lame man. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

After spending the night in jail, Peter and John were brought before the Sanhedrin. The council questioned them as to how the lame man was healed (Acts 4:5–7). With the Spirit's anointing, Peter boldly proclaimed this healing was

done by the power of Jesus (verses 8–10). Peter then stated the Jewish leaders' rejection of Jesus was a fulfillment of Psalm 118:22 (Acts 4:11). Jesus is the cornerstone of God's plan for salvation. There is no other Name by which people can be saved (verse 12).

Since the council could not deny the miracle, they commanded the apostles not to speak anymore in the name of Jesus. Peter and John rejected this command, declaring they must be obedient to God's authority above human authority.

The Early Church was facing its first true obstacle in the form of opposition from the Jewish religious rulers. With a boldness that came from the anointing of the Holy Spirit, Peter unwaveringly proclaimed the truth about who Jesus is—the risen Savior. Jesus is the only means of salvation in fulfillment of God's plan announced long before in the Scriptures.

In a time when resistance to and rejection of the gospel is increasing, believers can find assurance that the same Spirit who anointed the apostles empowers believers today to testify as witnesses of Jesus. The Spirit will give us words to say even in the face of opposition. He will provide opportunities to proclaim the gospel and will work through us to do the miraculous in the name of Jesus. He will also work in the hearts of the hearers to draw them to faith in Jesus.

Discuss

? How would you answer someone who says it is arrogant or wrong for Christians to say Jesus is the only way to salvation?

? Describe a time when the Spirit helped you share the gospel?

Unity Among Believers

Acts 4:23–32

[Act 4:23-32 KJV] 23 And being let go, they went to their own company, and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said unto them. 24 And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said, Lord, thou [art] God, which hast made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is: 25 Who by the mouth of thy servant David hast said, Why did the heathen rage, and the people imagine vain things? 26 The kings of the earth stood up, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord, and against his Christ. 27 For of a truth against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together, 28 For to do whatsoever thy hand and thy counsel determined before to be done. 29 And now,

Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word, 30 By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus. 31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness. 32 And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any [of them] that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common.

Say: Problems either tear people apart or draw them together. In many ways, how Christians face opposition reflects the health of their relationship with God. The first opposition the early believers faced drew them together. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

On being released by the Sanhedrin, Peter and John reported their encounter to the other believers (Acts 4:23). In response, the believers prayed, expressing their confidence in God’s sovereignty (verse 24). Looking to Christ for strength to stand firm is what enables believers to remain faithful to Him and united in their service to Him. The early believers were convinced that God is in control, sovereign over the course of events (verses 25–28). They understood they needed God’s help to continue to proclaim the gospel (verses 29–30). They asked the Lord for boldness and power to fulfill His task. And God answered their prayer. Their “meeting place shook” and they all received a fresh infilling of the Holy Spirit (verse 31).

God wants to give every Spirit-filled believer a fresh infilling of the Holy Spirit to empower them to proclaim the gospel and see God work the miraculous through them. This same infilling will draw believers in a closer relationship with each other.

Faithfulness to Christ and church growth go hand-in-hand. The unity in the Early Church extended beyond fulfilling its mission of proclaiming the gospel to building an inclusive community of faith. Their commitment to serve the Lord and one another united these early believers. Whether in proclaiming the gospel or sharing with those in need, they “were of one heart and of one soul” (verse 32, KJV), and the Church continued to grow.

Resource Packet Item 3: Responding to Opposition

Hand out the work sheet. Ask for volunteers to read each of the Scriptures aloud. Then discuss the questions as a class.

Discuss

? How is unity among believers seen today?

? Does God still answer the prayer for boldness to speak His Word? Explain.

What Is God Saying to Us?

Say: We must embrace the spiritual dynamics that make the Church grow if we are to move forward as the body of Christ and as individual believers. As we are faithful to worship the Lord, apply His Word, follow the Spirit, and show loving care to one another, God's kingdom will flourish among us. Central to all this is the concept of togetherness. Jesus designed His Church to function as a body, each member doing his or her part to contribute to its growth and health. As the Spirit works in and empowers believers, they will grow in Christlikeness and evangelize the world. Opposition cannot stop the Church from growing. Indeed, it should drive believers to support each other and rely fully on the Lord for strength.

Living It Out

Ministry in Action

- Ask the Lord for a fresh hunger for His Word. Invest time in both reading and studying the Bible, trusting the Lord to transform you through it.
- Get involved in a small group to help you grow and a ministry group to help you serve.
- Seek God for a fresh infilling of His Spirit so you can stand firm in the faith and boldly proclaim the gospel.

Daily Bible Readings

Monday:

Innumerable Increase Promised.
Genesis 15:1–6

[Gen 15:1-6 KJV] 1 After these things the word of the LORD came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: I [am] thy shield, [and] thy exceeding great reward. 2 And Abram said, Lord GOD, what wilt thou give me, seeing I go childless, and the steward of my house [is] this Eliezer of Damascus? 3 And Abram said, Behold, to me thou hast given no seed: and, lo, one born in my house is mine heir. 4 And, behold, the word of the LORD [came] unto him, saying, This shall not be thine heir; but he that shall come forth out of thine own bowels shall be thine heir. 5 And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be. 6 And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness.

Tuesday:

God Increased Israel in Egypt.
Exodus 1:7–12

[Exo 1:7-12 KJV] 7 And the children of Israel were fruitful, and increased abundantly, and multiplied, and waxed exceeding mighty; and the land was filled with them. 8 Now there arose up a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph. 9 And he said unto his people, Behold, the people of the children of Israel [are]

more and mightier than we: 10 Come on, let us deal wisely with them; lest they multiply, and it come to pass, that, when there falleth out any war, they join also unto our enemies, and fight against us, and [so] get them up out of the land. 11 Therefore they did set over them taskmasters to afflict them with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh treasure cities, Pithom and Raamses. 12 But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew. And they were grieved because of the children of Israel.

Wednesday:

God Increased the Captive Jews.
Jeremiah 29:1–7

[Jer 29:1-7 KJV] 1 Now these [are] the words of the letter that Jeremiah the prophet sent from Jerusalem unto the residue of the elders which were carried away captives, and to the priests, and to the prophets, and to all the people whom Nebuchadnezzar had carried away captive from Jerusalem to Babylon; 2 (After that Jeconiah the king, and the queen, and the eunuchs, the princes of Judah and Jerusalem, and the carpenters, and the smiths, were departed from Jerusalem;) 3 By the hand of Elasah the son of Shaphan, and Gemariah the son of Hilkiah, (whom Zedekiah king of Judah sent unto Babylon to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon) saying, 4 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, unto all that are carried away captives, whom I have caused to be carried away from Jerusalem unto Babylon; 5 Build ye houses, and dwell [in them]; and plant gardens, and eat the fruit of them; 6 Take ye wives, and beget sons and daughters; and take wives for your sons, and give your daughters to husbands, that they may bear sons and daughters; that ye may be increased there, and not diminished. 7 And seek the peace of the city whither I have caused you to be carried away captives, and pray unto the LORD for it: for in the peace thereof shall ye have peace.

Thursday:

Twelve Disciples.
Matthew 10:1–8

[Mat 10:1-8 KJV] 1 And when he had called unto [him] his twelve disciples, he gave them power [against] unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease. 2 Now the names of the twelve apostles are these; The first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James [the son] of Zebedee, and John his brother; 3 Philip, and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the publican; James [the son] of Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus; 4 Simon the Canaanite, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him. 5 These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into [any] city of the Samaritans enter ye not: 6 But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. 7 And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. 8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.

Friday:

Seventy Disciples.

Luke 10:1–12

[Luk 10:1-12 KJV] 1 After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come. **2** Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly [is] great, but the labourers [are] few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest. **3** Go your ways: behold, I send you forth as lambs among wolves. **4** Carry neither purse, nor scrip, nor shoes: and salute no man by the way. **5** And into whatsoever house ye enter, first say, Peace [be] to this house. **6** And if the son of peace be there, your peace shall rest upon it: if not, it shall turn to you again. **7** And in the same house remain, eating and drinking such things as they give: for the labourer is worthy of his hire. Go not from house to house. **8** And into whatsoever city ye enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you: **9** And heal the sick that are therein, and say unto them, The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you. **10** But into whatsoever city ye enter, and they receive you not, go your ways out into the streets of the same, and say, **11** Even the very dust of your city, which cleaveth on us, we do wipe off against you: notwithstanding be ye sure of this, that the kingdom of God is come nigh unto you. **12** But I say unto you, that it shall be more tolerable in that day for Sodom, than for that city.

Saturday:

One-Hundred-Twenty Disciples.

Acts 1:12–17

[Act 1:12-17 KJV] 12 Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey. **13** And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room, where abode both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James [the son] of Alphaeus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas [the brother] of James. **14** These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren. **15** And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty,) **16** Men [and] brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus. **17** For he was numbered with us, and had obtained part of this ministry.